

CONFIDENTIAL

February 27, 1959

S/S - Mr. Calhoun

Arch -

With some diffidence:

While, as we know, the Secretary has had the same misgivings as Mr. Herter expressed to Mr. Harlow about a joint resolution expressing determination to stand on our rights in Berlin, I have a feeling that he would be equally or even more concerned about another aspect of the matter if the resolution were to be a "Formosa type". If I correctly understand this description to mean one authorizing the use of U. S. military forces, I believe the Secretary would want to be very sure that the content or effect of such a resolution would not turn the tables on ourselves, from the present situation. This, as I understand it, is that the President and others have made clear that the initiative and responsibility for any use of force in connection with our rights to be in Berlin and to have access thereto, will be on the Communists, not on us.

I cannot point to a specific indication that the Secretary has addressed this problem or reached any conclusion about it, but I do feel sure he would want the aspect noted thoroughly considered and may also want, if possible, to be informed before anything definitive is done.

Would you see that those concerned give the foregoing whatever consideration it merits?

Joseph N. Greene, Jr.

S:JNG:jm

